IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Michael HOURN; Rodrigo VENTURA; John WILLIS and David WINBORNE

ATTN: PCT

Serial No:

Filed

For

: METHOD FOR TREATING PRECIOUS

METAL BEARING MINERALS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-noted application in the following manner:

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up set of claims and the replacement sheets of claims.

REMARKS

The claims have been changed to place the application in conformance with U.S. practice. No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J/ McDonald

Reg. 41,533

May 9, 2001

HOFFMAN, WASSON & GITLER, PC 2361 Jefferson Davis Highway Suite 522 Arlington, VA 22202 (703) 415-0100

Attorney's Docket: A-7419.PAM/cat

 5H1